

50X1-HUM

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION FROM  
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea  
SUBJECT Political - Official negligence  
Economic - Agriculture, problems  
HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspapers  
WHERE PUBLISHED P'yongyang  
DATE PUBLISHED 13, 26 May 1953  
LANGUAGE Korean

DATE OF INFORMATION 1953

DATE DIST. 7 May 1954

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE As indicated

NORTH KOREAN PAPERS PUBLISH LETTERS  
FROM FARMERS CRITICIZING LOCAL GOVERNMENT

[Comment: This report summarizes two letters sent to the Minju Choson and Nodong Sinmun by North Korean farmers, criticizing local government officials. Letters to the editor are not frequently printed by North Korean newspapers. Minju Choson is the official organ of the Cabinet and the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Nodong Sinmun is the official organ of the Central Committee of the Korean Labor Party.]

Letter From Kim

The following letter was published in the Minju Choson 13 May 1953. The letter was sent by a farmer named Kim Pong-hwa, who lives in Wonsan, Kangwon-do:

"The officials in my ri (village) people's committee are generally good in dealing with big matters, but in dealing with small matters which are still important to the farmers, the officials tend to be inconsiderate."

"The farmers in my ri suffered considerable losses from last year's [1952] flood. They were without seed rice this spring. But none of the farmers was given seed. The ri people's committee claimed that it did not see their names on the seed distribution list. A list had been prepared by us and submitted to the people's committee through our inninban (people's group).

"I could not fully understand the reason for this omission, so I made several inquiries at the ri people's committee. But the chairman of the ri people's committee was not cooperative and did nothing for us. My own investigation proved that the omission of our names from the list was not the oversight of my inninban leader.

- 1 -

STATE		NAVY		NSRB		DISTRIBUTION									
ARMY		AIR		FBI											

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

"The list was later discovered mislaid among other papers in the office of the ri people's committee. After this discovery, we asked the chairman of the ri people's committee to request the higher office for our share of seed, but the chairman spurned our demand by saying, 'It is too late to request now. Solve the problem yourselves.'"

"A similar example of neglect of duty by the officials of the ri people's committee occurred last summer in connection with the distribution of state grains to flood-stricken farmers. We believe that these officials should show more consideration to the welfare of the farmers."

Letter From Yi

The following letter was written by a farmer, Yi Ki-chun, of Yongch'on, P'yonggan-pukto, and was published in the Nodong Sinmun of 26 May 1953.

"The farmers of my ri are now working on the irrigation project needed to provide water for transplanting rice. The project is not progressing satisfactorily because the kun (county) officials have neither leadership nor foresight. The rice-transplanting season is approaching rapidly, but we have no water.

"Chairman Kim Yong-chun and Vice-Chairman Chang Ye-ch'ol of the kun party committee, Vice-Chairman Kim Ho-yong of the kun people's committee, and other officials have visited the project from time to time. Although they remarked that they will help solve the difficulties quickly, they failed to fulfill what they once promised."

"Some farmers who have lost their hopes for an early completion of the project are planting barnyard-grass on their fertile land."

The Nodong Sinmun added the following comment to the above letter:

"The kun officials, by their disregard of the importance of the rice-transplanting program, have undermined the zeal of the farmers for higher production. The kun leaders must learn to meet the demands of the people. They should assume their responsibilities as leaders and work hard to rectify their errors."

- E N D -

50X1-HUM

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL